

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 292760

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 STR-04 COME-00 TRSY-02

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /052 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/STA:GWHITE:MH

APPROVED BY EB/OT/STA:JSSPIRO

EUR/RPE:RBRESLER

AGRI:WDOERING

STR:BSTEINBOCK

ATF:SHIGGINS

COMM:BFITZPATRICK (SUBS)

TREAS:POSUCHMAN

TREAS:WBARREDA

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R 011536Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EEC, ETRD

SUBJECT: EC PROBLEMS WITH PROPOSED US CERTIFICATION OF
IMPORTED WINES

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 11220, (B) STATE 288926

1. THE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES MISSION'S INFORMATION
CONCERNING POTENTIAL PROBLEMS OF EC WINE EXPORTERS
REGARDING U.S. WINE REGULATIONS REPORTED REFTEL A. YOU
MIGHT CALL COMMISSION'S ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE
ISSUES THEY RAISE DO NOT STEM FROM THE PROPOSED REGULA-
TIONS, BUT WOULD ARISE IN LIGHT OF CURRENT U.S. REGULATIONS
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PAGE 02 STATE 292760

WHICH HAVE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS REGARDING VINTAGE WINES

AND AROMATIC WINES. THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS MIGHT REQUIRE THAT FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS CERTIFY THAT IMPORTED WINE MEETS U.S. REGULATIONS, AND THE CERTIFICATE WOULD HIGHLIGHT ANY FOREIGN PRACTICES INCONSISTENT WITH THE U.S. REGULATIONS.

2. WE HAVE NOT MET OUR ORIGINAL TIMETABLE TO HOLD

FURTHER US-EC WINE CONSULTATIONS IN NOVEMBER BECAUSE THE NEW PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON U.S. DOMESTIC WINE CATEGORIES, SEE REFTEL B, HAS OPENED UP POSSIBILITIES REGARDING THE U.S. NEGOTIATING STANCE WHICH WE HAVE NOT YET FOLDED INTO OUR ANALYSIS. TREASURY TOLD THE EC COMMISSION DURING US-EC BILATERALS THAT A DECISION ON THE PROPOSED U.S. CERTIFICATION FOR IMPORTED WINES WOULD NOT BE MADE BEFORE THE US-EC WINE CONSULTATIONS. ROBINSON

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